

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium encoded with a data structure formatted according to extensible markup language (XML) including data representative of a canonical UI description of a device to be controlled for use by a universal console, said universal console operable to receive at least one user preference for rendering said UI description, wherein said UI description comprises:

(1) action-commands to which said device responds, and
(2) descriptors for ~~display~~ rendering a user interface on said universal console, said descriptors providing [[a]] at least one prompt for a user to select at least one of said action-commands, wherein said at least one prompt is selected in accordance with said at least one user preference.

2. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 1, wherein said canonical UI description includes a representation associated with a parameter for choosing one element a from a set A .

3. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 2, wherein said canonical UI description includes a representation associated with a parameter for selecting a subset A' from a set A .

4. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 1, wherein said canonical UI description includes a representation associated with a parameter for selecting one from the group of True/False, Off/On, OK/Cancel and Yes/No.

5. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 1, wherein said canonical UI description includes a representation associated with a parameter for selecting an integer n in the range n_1 through n_2 , with increment δ .

6. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 1, wherein said canonical UI description includes a representation associated with a parameter for selecting a real number x in the range x_1 through x_2 , with increment δ .

7. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 1, wherein said canonical UI description includes a representation associated with a parameter type for an arbitrary string s .

8. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 1, wherein said arbitrary string s is to be selected from a suggestion set of strings S .

9. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 1, wherein said canonical UI description includes a representation associated with a parameter type for the modification of a given first string s , resulting in a second string s' .

10. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 1, wherein said canonical UI description includes a representation associated with a parameter type for ordering the elements of set A into A' .

11. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 1, wherein said canonical UI description includes a representation associated with a parameter type for pairing set A elements with set B elements.

12. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 1, wherein said canonical UI description includes a representation associated with a group construct that contains at least one of commands and subgroups.

13. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 1, wherein said canonical UI description includes a representation

associated with a command construct that specifies at least one action to send to the controlled element that will carry out the action-command.

14. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium encoded with the data structure according to claim 13, wherein said canonical UI description includes a description of the parameters associated with the at least one action.